



SWARC NEWS

Meeting Notes

SWARC held its monthly meeting on 5 February 2018 at the Comfort Inn on Purfoy RD Fuquay-Varina. Meeting was called to order at 1850 by President Jason, KM4PFV. Jason thanked all for their input as to a meeting place. While the legion affords us a great place every month, scheduling conflicts will happen. If you have a better location to meet, that allows us to bring in our own refreshments and are allowed to cut up and carry on as we do, please speak up in the future.

Thank you to Ryan, NC4RA for hosting the Winter Field Day again. This is an annual event and as always a huge turn out occurred. It was a time to meet and greet for the local hams and a chance to operate some radios .Ryan all the hams of SWARC and the area hams wish to extend a huge hand of gratitude to you.

We will have two tables and four chairs at RARSfest. As usual we will be selling raffle tickets and be on a membership drive. This is a great event and we are proud to be a part of it again this year.

We have already begun preparations for Field Day. Please get in touch with KK4BK or KM4PFV if you are interested in this annual (stick your chest out event). SWARC is going to be setting records this year with your help. So get your field gear ready. This going to be the biggest scoring event we have taken place in. this is going to be huge.

We wish to express our gratitude to Glenn, N4AZR for being our web master for the past several years. Glenn has done a great job in getting us set up and running. He has done an even greater job in keeping it up to date. All good things come to an end however. Glenn has passed the torch to Brian, KK4BK. So any information for the web page needs to be sent to Brian, KK4BK.

The club auction began at 6:58. Thanks goes to Jason for helping out.

**South Wake Amateur Radio Club Treasurer Report
January 2018**

Club Addition and Reduction Activity

Additions

50/50	31.00	cash	
Meal	115.00	cash	
Dues	30.00	check #5104	Matthew Galgoci (KE4EXS)
Dues	15.00	check #1051	Richard Akelewicz (KI4UZI)
Dues	15.00	check #2244	Micheal Akers (KN4CBZ)
Donation	20.00	cash	

Total Additions 226.00

Reductions

Meal cost	16.00	cash	reimbursed David Sosnin (N4TTN)
Donation	800.00	check #1653	donation to Danny Hampton

Total Reductions 816.00

RBC Bank Account Activity

Balance as of 01/08/2018	4929.19		
Addition	226.00		
Reduction	816.00		

**Balance as of
02/05/2018** 4339.19

Christine Fernandini KJ4AEO
02/05/2018

NET Report

No NET Report has been submitted there is nothing to report other than NETs were held.

Seeing how our NET Whip has just volunteered for the position then there will not be a report.

*Please we ask that all future net reports to please send the net reports to Jonathan at
sharpburg1130@gmail.com*

A big thank you to Jonathan for stepping up.

*Jonathan, W1JCA is on the lookout for a new Sunday night net control. If interested please
contact Jonathan, W1JCA.*

Membership Report

Ryan, NC4RA was at the meeting and informed us that we currently had 101 members.

Public Service

*Mike, KD4OKR had nothing to report on Public Service. However Dave, NW3U submitted the
following*

Hello everyone!

The start of the Ham Radio public service season is upon us. The 2018 Odyssey of the Mind - Eastern Region Tournament will be held on Saturday, March 3rd . I'm reaching out to those that helped or expressed interest in the past.

Some of you have already taken steps to volunteer and I thank you for that. Confirmations will be on the way if you haven't received one already.

The tournament will be held again this year on the main Wake Technical Community College Campus at 9101 Fayetteville Rd. (Hwy. 401) - just a few miles south of Raleigh.

The NC Eastern Region Odyssey of the Mind website is: <http://ncome.org/> in case you would like to learn more. Here's the specific link to the problem synopses for the 2018 tournament: <https://www.odysseyofthemind.com/2018-long-term-problem-synopsis/>

In 2017, 17 Hams participated and I expect to need at least that many this year. As we get better, the OOM folks think of additional ways to use our expertise.

Rather than email me back indicating your ability to help, please use the event sign-up page at HPSNC.org. Your information gets added directly to a volunteer list I work from and you'll get an automatic confirmation email as well. Yes, you can still sign up from the RARS Public Service page, but that requires the re-entering of your information over on the HPSNC site. Please add a note to indicate your assignment preference and also include your T-Shirt size.

I expect we'll start the day around 7 AM with the volunteer meeting. The tournament runs well into the afternoon, but should wrap up for everyone around 4 PM.

We'll use 2 meter simplex, so a HT, good whip antenna and adequate supply of battery power for the entire day is needed. Because many assignments are in locations where noise can disrupt the student performances, everyone should plan to use an earphone/headset. If you are dual-band capable, my portable cross-band system will be available as it was last year. The buildings used in the past were relatively close together and we didn't have too many issues. However, they are big concrete buildings with some terrain changes, so running a few watts vs. milliwatts was necessary in some cases last year.

Lunch will be provided as always. I'll reach out later with the lunch choices when that information is available to me.

More specific information will be made available in the near future, as the plans come together. Thank you in advance and I look forward to working with many of you again.

73,

Brian Young - KA9QJT
919-954-2178 Home

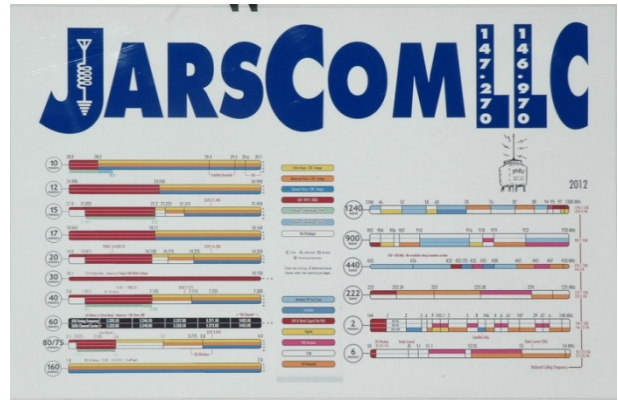
Vice President

The Technician class has completed and was a grand success.

We had 16 enroll and 14 came out with a ticket. We even had a couple that took the extra and passed it. Congratulations to Brian and the educational team. These new operators are planning on attending the March meeting so please be on your best behavior and make the newbies feel welcome. A General class is in the planning. We will announce out the idea in various media formats including but not limited to the local nets, the ARRL publications and multimedia outlets such as Facebook and twitter.

Picture from the Technician class:





Pictures from the January Meeting







“Awesome” Activity for the 2018 ARRL International Grid Chase

02/20/2018

“On-the-air activity for the 2018 ARRL International Grid Chase (**IGC**) has been awesome!” ARRL Contest Branch Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, said this week. “The year also began with DXpeditions, as well as several contests at both HF and VHF, to boost numbers. Facebook and social media (**Facebook**, **Twitter** #ICG) are abuzz with chatter about the event, the excitement, the grids worked.”

Jahnke said the statistics show the highest overall activity on 40 and 20 meters — not surprising in the winter — and especially strong *digital* activity. He expects phone and CW activity to perk up this month and next, with the ARRL International DX Contest CW weekend February 17 - 18, and the phone weekend March 3 - 4. He also anticipates that February’s statistics will come on strong as participants re-work January grid squares to boost their February scores. As of the January activity upload deadline of February 10 at 2359 UTC, some 23,300 station sites were active in the IGC.

“The **leader board** reporting system continues to evolve, with much helpful participant feedback,” Jahnke said. That user input is improving how ARRL reports participation. “From the statistics, it’s clear that during this period of low sunspots and low winter E-skip and F2, most of the activity on the mid-to-lower bands is digital modes,” Jahnke said. “As we get into the summer E-skip season, we expect to see activity above 15 meters begin its ascent in the totals.”

Jahnke said it’s apparent that participants are taking advantage of CW (and FT8 and other digital modes) on HF to overcome some of the weakened propagation on the low-to medium-frequency bands, and of FT8, JT65, and FSK144/MSK144 on 6 meters and above to rack up impressive totals. “Not to be outdone, in comparison to overall band totals, phone contacts on 80, 40, 20, and 17 meters are strong, and 2-meter and 70-centimeter contacts were strong in January as well,” Jahnke added. Several contests in

January, including the ARRL RTTY Roundup and ARRL January VHF Contest contributed to these strong phone and digital numbers.

During January, IGC-eligible contacts matched in Logbook of The World (LoTW) topped 22,000 on 40 meters and 23,000 on 20 meters — the two bands with the greatest activity — with nearly half the contacts being made on digital modes in both bands. On the new 630-meter band, 31 IGC-eligible contacts turned up in LoTW.



Postponed DXpedition to Disputed Spratlys Reset for March

02/20/2018

An international Amateur Radio team that postponed a December 2017 DXpedition to the disputed Spratly Islands now plans to be on the air in early March from Layang Layang Island — also known as Swallow Reef — under Malaysian call sign **9M0W**, with CW, SSB, and digital operation on 160 through 6 meters. The team, headed by Hrane Milosevic, YT1AD, had to change its plans because the resort on Layang Layang Island, from which the DXpedition will operate, was closed from December until February. In addition to its call sign, the 9M0W team has a landing permit from the Malaysian government. While the Royal Malaysian Navy maintains a presence on the reef, ownership of the Spratlys has been asserted by the People's Republic of China (PRC), Taiwan, Vietnam, and the Philippines — in addition to Malaysia. The Spratlys are #56 on Club Log's **DXCC Most-Wanted List**.

A group of islands and associated "maritime features" (reefs, banks, cays, etc.) of economic and strategic importance, the Spratlys are just part of ongoing territorial disputes throughout the South China Sea, characterized by diplomatic stalemate and the employment of military pressure — including the occupation of disputed territory — to advance territorial claims. The Spratlys and Scarborough Reef, another rare DXCC entity, have caught the attention of news media in recent years, owing to the PRC's increasingly vocal objection to the presence of fishing vessels as well as that of American naval vessels transiting the area's busy trade routes in order to assert the right to freedom of navigation within what the US considers international waters.

The approximately 15-acre Layang Layang Island includes some land "reclaimed" from the ocean floor. The PRC has also been involved in an ambitious program of artificially expanding the land mass of South China Sea islands. In 2014, China commenced

dredging activities within the Spratlys and, the following year, satellite images showed that China was building an airfield on Fiery Cross Reef, while continuing land reclamation at other sites in the region.

The most recent DXpedition from the Spratlys took place in 2015, when the DX0P DXpedition operated in the spring of that year from Thitu Island (called Pag-asa in Tagalog), using a license issued by the Philippines. The DX0P operation took place just a few years after the planned DX0DX DXpedition to the Spratlys was “permanently cancelled” in 2011 without explanation after being pushed back at least twice.

A 2016 ruling from an international tribunal discounted the PRC’s claims with respect to the Spratlys and Scarborough Reef. The Permanent Court of Arbitration in the Hague, Netherlands, ruled in favor of the Philippines in a dispute with the PRC over Scarborough Reef — also known as Scarborough Shoal. The tribunal said that although navigators and fishermen from China and other states have historically made use of South China Sea Islands, there was no evidence that China had historically exercised exclusive control over the waters or resources.

According to the tribunal, the PRC had violated the Philippines’ sovereign rights and had caused “severe harm to the coral reef environment” by building artificial islands and an air strip. The PRC refused to take part in the arbitration and said it would not be bound by the tribunal’s ruling. The tribunal made clear that its ruling did not address issues of territorial sovereignty.





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Appointed Positions

President

Jason Upchurch – KM4PFV

Vice President

Brian Knox – KK4BK

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Nancy Butterfield – KM4KUT

Treasurer

Christy Fernandini - KJ4AEO

Member-At-Large

Steve Mowels – KA0GMY

Member-At-Large

Jim Young – K9RII

Member-At-Large

John Cook – N4RMV

Membership Chair

Ryan Avery , NC4RA

NET MANAGER

Jonathan – W1JCA

Special Events Director

Gino Fernandini –KI4YXO

Public Service Director

Tim Ruffin – W4TAR

Mike Ramsey – KD4OKR

Chris Picar - K4CLP

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be March 5, 2018. Dinner will start at 6 pm. Meal will be Pot Luck. Be sure to sign up so we know what you are bringing. The program will be Chasing DX presented by Chris, KC4EOG

SWARC Mission Statement

South Wake ARC's primary purpose is to further the Amateur Radio Service through programs, activities, and education, in order to promote the radio knowledge,

fraternalism and individual operating efficiency of our members. Further, it shall be our purpose to support the welfare of our community through public service including radio communications for emergency situations and public events, and through providing information, training, and assistance to individuals or organizations with an interest in the Amateur Radio Service.

LINKS *(if you have other links you want added then send them to me)*

PRN

A Wide Area Digital Amateur Radio Network www.ncprn.net

GigaParts

www.gigaparts.com

QRZ

www.qrz.com

Ham Radio Outlet HRO

www.hamradio.com

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society RARS

www.rars.org

Johnson Amateur Radio Society JARS

www.jars..net

South Wake Amateur Radio Club SWARC

www.southwakearc.com

